

Response to Office Action mailed June 1, 2005
Serial No. 10/501,003

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-156 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed June 1, 2005, claims 1-20 and 136-141 were rejected. Applicant thanks Examiner for indicating that claims 21-135 and 142-156 are allowable. Claim 145 is amended to correct a typographical error. Please cancel claims 1-20 and 136-141 without prejudice to the subject matter encompassed thereby.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,317,118 to Brandberg et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,217,768 to Walter et al. Claims 136-141 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,317,118 to Brandberg et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,217,768 to Walter et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,230,914 to Akervik.

Without addressing the merit of this rejection, claims 1-20 and 136-141 are canceled by this amendment. As such, it is submitted that this rejection is obviated and should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of the claims as set forth in the non-final Office Action of June 1, 2005 have been addressed and overcome. Applicants further respectfully assert that all claims are in condition for allowance and request that a Notice of Allowance be issued. If issues may be resolved through Examiner's Amendment, or clarified in any manner, a call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 879-2437 courteously is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Respectfully submitted,



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